

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) In a A voice signal pitch period detecting method for detecting the pitch period of an input voice waveform, comprising:

by taking identifying a predetermined number of pitch periods on the basis of the input voice waveform of a predetermined time period, a voice signal pitch period detecting method characterized by

detecting processing less than all of the identified pitch periods by reducing, when the detected pitch period is not more than a predetermined reference value, the number of times of pitch period detecting processing by considering the pitch period of a waveform of a predetermined number of pitch periods subsequent to a waveform of the predetermined number of pitch periods detected the same as the currently detected pitch period.

2. (Original) In a voice signal pitch period detecting method for detecting the pitch period of an input voice waveform by taking a predetermined number of pitch periods on the basis of the input voice waveform of a predetermined time period, a voice signal pitch period detecting method characterized by

judging whether the detected pitch period is long or short on the basis of the ratio of the detected pitch period to said predetermined time period, and reducing, when it is judged that the detected pitch period is short, the number of times of pitch period detecting processing by considering the pitch period of a waveform of a predetermined number of pitch periods subsequent to a waveform of the predetermined number of pitch periods detected the same as the detected pitch period.

3. (Original) A pitch period detecting device comprising:

first means for detecting the pitch period of an input voice waveform by taking a predetermined number of pitch periods on the basis of the input voice waveform of a predetermined time period;

second means for judging whether or not the detected pitch period is not more than a predetermined reference value;